AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

For the Examiner's convenience, all pending claims are set forth below and have been amended where noted:

What is claimed is:

1. (Currently Amended) ~~A method and system for creating a relationship model and dependency hierarchy for delivery and management of technology components as they relate to, and impact, specific business processes~~ A system for identifying relationships ~~between business processes and technology~~ using a protocol to form a dependency and impact hierarchy, wherein the hierarchy comprises:

   a. a business organization object layer;

   b. a business unit object layer;

   c. a business process object layer;

   d. a mechanism object layer;

   e. a client object layer comprising an application user interface executable on a user input device;

   f. an input device object layer comprising a device adapted for the input, viewing, or manipulation of data and programs;

   g. a shared infrastructure services object layer comprising a technical service;

   h. an application object layer comprising a member of the group consisting of software, an operating system, a program, data, and combinations thereof;

   i. a shared data storage object layer comprising a shared data storage technical infrastructure object;

   j. a server object layer comprising a server technical infrastructure component;

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k.   a network object layer comprising a network technical infrastructure component;

l.   a shared network infrastructure object layer comprising an individual network object; and

m.   a security device object layer comprising a security device technical infrastructure component.

2.   (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 1, further including: (a) The Business Technology Relationship Model (BTRM) consists of 13 layers. (b) The vertical placement of the BTRM layers is constant and static. (c) The relationship between BTRM layers is constant and static. (d) The BTRM represents a series of dependencies, with each layer dependent on the layer below it. (e) BTRM layers 1 through 3 are reserved for business abstraction. (f) BTRM layers 4 through 13 are reserved for technical infrastructure abstraction The system of claim 1, wherein the object layers are arranged vertically creating only vertical dependencies.

3.   (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 2, wherein there are 13 Layers on the BTRM and they include: (a) Business Organization Object Layer 1 (b) Business Unit Object Layer 2 (c) Business Process Object Layer 3 (d) Mechanism Object Layer 4 (e) Client Object Layer 5 (f) Input Device Object Layer 6 (g) Shared Infrastructure Services Object Layer 7 (h) Application Object Layer 8 (i) Shared Data Storage Object Layer 9 j) Server Object Layer 10 (k) Network Object Layer 11 (l) Shared Network Infrastructure Object Layer 12 (m) Security Device Object Layer 13 The system of claim 1, wherein the object layers are in a constant and static arrangement.

4.   (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 2, further including: (a) BTRM is the framework for the BTRM Dependency/Impact Hierarchy. (b) The BTRM Dependency/Impact Hierarchy represents the recursive identification and documentation of technical infrastructure objects traversing down the BTRM as they relate to a specific business process. (c) Modeling of all dependencies between layers on the BTRM Dependency/Impact Hierarchy is done vertically, and no horizontal dependencies exist in the BTRM Dependency/Impact Hierarchy. (d) On the BTRM Dependency/Impact

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Hierarchy, ~~Business layers are modeled above technology infrastructure layers~~ The system of claim 1, wherein relationships between object layers is constant and static.

5.   (Currently Amended) ~~A method as in claims 2 or 4, in which a Bridged Common Object Layer contains a subset of BTRM layers, including a discreet Dependency/Impact Hierarchy within the Bridged Common Object Layer~~ The system of claim 1 wherein each object layer is dependent on the object layer below it.

6.   (Currently Amended) ~~A method as in claim 5 further including: (a) Layer 7 of the BTRM, Shared Infrastructure Services Object Layer, is a Bridged Common Object Layer containing a discreet Dependency/Impact Hierarchy subset of BTRM Model Layers 8 through 13. (b) Layer 9 of the BTRM, Shared Data Storage Object Layer, is a Bridged Common Object Layer containing a discreet Dependency/Impact Hierarchy subset of BTRM Model Layers 7 through 13. (c) Layer 12 of the BTRM, Shared Network Object Layer, is a Bridged Common Object Layer containing a discreet Dependency/Impact Hierarchy subset of BTRM Model Layers 11 through 13~~ The system of claim 1, wherein the dependency and impact hierarchy comprises of a member selected from group consisting of a business process object; a technical infrastructure component; a business process object group; a technical infrastructure component group of, and combinations thereof.

7.   (Currently Amended) ~~A method as in claim 4, further including: (a) Objects within the BTRM Dependency/Impact Hierarchy represent individual business or technical infrastructure components or groups of business or technical infrastructure components. (b) The placement of objects on the BTRM Dependency/Impact Hierarchy is constant and static. (c) The relationship between objects on the BTRM Dependency/Impact Hierarchy is constant and static. (d) Infrastructure objects modeled at the top of a BTRM Dependency/Impact Hierarchy are dependent on those objects modeled below. (e) On the BTRM Dependency/Impact Hierarchy, Business objects are modeled above technology infrastructure objects. (f) There is no limit to the number of objects on the BTRM Dependency/Impact Hierarchy. (g) There is no limit to the number of objects within a specific layer on the BTRM Dependency/Impact Hierarchy. (h) The placement of objects~~

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~~on the BTRM Dependency/Impact Hierarchy persistently reflects dependency, and may or may not reflect data flow~~ The system of claim 6, wherein the business process object is modeled above the technical infrastructure component, wherein each object layer is dependent on the object layer below it.

8.   (Currently Amended) ~~A method as in claim 7, in which a Business Organization Object represents an individual business organization object or group of business organization objects~~ The system of claim 1, further comprising a recursive identification of infrastructure dependencies and a documentation of technical infrastructure objects traversing down the dependency and impact hierarchy for a specific business process.

9.   (Currently Amended) ~~A method as in claim 8, further including: (a) On the BTRM Dependency/Impact Hierarchy, the Business Organization Object is the upper-most business object of the abstracted business layers 1 through 3. (b) All other business objects are modeled below a Business Organization Object. (c) On the BTRM Dependency/Impact Hierarchy, a Business Organization Object is modeled above a Business Unit Object. (d) On the BTRM Dependency/Impact Hierarchy, a Business Organization Object is dependent upon a Business Unit Object~~ The system of claim 1, further comprising a bridged common object layer consisting of a subset of object layers in the discreet dependency and impact hierarchy.

10.   (Currently Amended) ~~A method as in claim 7, in which a Business Unit Object reflects an individual business unit object or group of business unit objects~~ The system of claim 9, wherein the shared infrastructure services object layer is the bridged common object layer, wherein the bridged common object layer comprises a duplicate of the application object layer, the shared data storage object layer, the server object layer, the network object layer, the shared network infrastructure object layer, and the security device object layer.

11.   (Currently Amended) ~~A method as in claim 10, further including: (a) On the BTRM Dependency/Impact Hierarchy, a Business Unit Object is modeled below a Business Organization Object. (b) On the BTRM Dependency/Impact Hierarchy, a Business Unit Object is modeled above a Business Process Object. (c) On the BTRM~~

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~~Dependency/Impact Hierarchy, a Business Unit Object is dependent upon a Business Process Object~~ The system of claim 9, wherein shared data storage object layer is the bridged common object layer, wherein the bridged common object layer comprises a duplicate of the shared infrastructure services, the application object layer, the server object layer, the network object layer, the shared network infrastructure object layer, and the security device object layer.

12.   (Currently Amended) ~~A method as in claim 7, in which a Business Process Object reflects an individual business process object or group of business process objects~~ The system of claim 9, wherein the shared network infrastructure object layer is the bridged common object layer, wherein the bridged common object layer comprises a duplicate of the network object layer and the security device object layer.

13.   (Currently Amended) ~~A method as in claim 12, further including: (a) On the BTRM Dependency/Impact Hierarchy, a Business Process Object is modeled below a Business Unit Object. (b) On the BTRM Dependency/Impact Hierarchy, a Business Process Object is modeled above a Mechanism Object. (c) On the BTRM Dependency/Impact Hierarchy, a Business Process Object is dependent upon a Mechanism Object~~ The system of claim 1, wherein the business organization object layer is the top layer of the dependency and impact hierarchy.

14.   (Currently Amended) ~~A method as in claim 7, in which a Mechanism Object represents an individual tool or a technology that supports a specific business process~~ The system of claim 1, wherein the business organization object layer comprises an individual business organization object or a group of business organization objects.

15.   (Currently Amended) ~~A method as in claim 14, further including: (a) On the BTRM Dependency/Impact Hierarchy, the Mechanism Object is the upper-most technical object of the abstracted technical infrastructure layers 4 through 13. (b) All other technical infrastructure objects are modeled below the Mechanism Object Layer. (c) On the BTRM Dependency/Impact Hierarchy, the Mechanism Object is modeled below the Business Process Object. (d) On the BTRM Dependency/Impact Hierarchy, the Mechanism Object is modeled above the Client Object. (e) On the BTRM Dependency/Impact Hierarchy, the~~

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~~Mechanism-Object-is-dependent-upon-the-Client-Object~~ The system of claim 1, wherein the business unit object layer comprises an individual business unit object or a group of business unit objects.

16.   (Currently Amended) ~~A-method-as-in-claim-7,-in-which-the-Client Object-represents-an application-user-interface-executing-at-a-user-input-device~~ The system of claim 1, wherein the business process object layer comprises an individual business process object or a group of business process objects.

17.   (Currently Amended) ~~A-method-as-in-claim-16,-further-including:-(a)-On-the-BTRM Dependency/Impact-Hierarchy,-the-Client-Object-is-modeled-below-the-Mechanism Object.-(b)-On-the-BTRM-Dependency/Impact-Hierarchy,-the-Client-Object-is-modeled above-the-Input-Device-Object.-(c)-On-the-BTRM-Dependency/Impact-Hierarchy,-the Client-Object-is-dependent-upon-the-Input-Device-Object~~ The system of claim 1, wherein mechanism object layer comprises an individual tool or a technology that supports a specific business process.

18.   (Currently Amended) ~~A-method-as-in-claim-7,-in-which-the-Input-Device-Object represents-an-individual-physical-device-used-for-the-input,-viewing,-or-manipulation-of data-and-programs-by-a-user~~ The system of claim 1, wherein the technical service is selected from the group consisting of network addressing, network authentication, software distribution and combinations thereof.

19.   (Currently Amended) ~~A-method-as-in-claim-18,-further-including:-(a)-On-the-BTRM Dependency/Impact-Hierarchy,-the-Input-Device-Object-is-modeled-below-the-Client Object.-(b)-On-the-BTRM-Dependency/Impact-Hierarchy,-the-Input-Device-Object-is modeled-above-the-Application-Object.-(c)-On-the-BTRM-Dependency/Impact-Hierarchy, the-Input-Device-Object-is-dependent-upon-the-Application-Object.-(d)-When-the-BTRM Dependency/Impact-Hierarchy-includes-the-abstraction-of-the-Shared-Infrastructure Services-Object-Layer,-the-Input-Device-Object-is-also-modeled-above-the-Shared Infrastructure-Services-Object.-(e)-When-the-BTRM-Dependency/Impact-Hierarchy includes-the-abstraction-of-the-Shared-Infrastructure-Services-Object-Layer,-the-Input Device-Object-is-also-dependent-upon-the-Shared-Infrastructure-Services-Object~~ The

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system of claim 1, wherein the security device object layer is the bottom layer of the dependency and impact hierarchy.

20.   (Currently Amended) ~~A method as in claim 7, in which the Shared Infrastructure Services Object represents technical services used by an Input Device Object for functionality such as network addressing, network authentication, and software distribution~~ The system of claim 1, wherein the application object layer comprises files containing commands as program files and files that do not contain commands as data files.

21.   (Currently Amended) ~~A method as in claim 20 wherein, on the BTRM Dependency/Impact Hierarchy, the Shared Infrastructure Services Object is modeled below the Input Device Object~~ The system of claim 20, wherein program files cause the computer to perform specific operations.

22.   (Currently Amended) ~~A method as in claims 5 or 20 further including: (a) The Shared Infrastructure Services Object Layer is considered a Bridged Common Object Layer. (b) On the BTRM Dependency/Impact Hierarchy, the Shared Infrastructure Services Object Layer contains a discreet Dependency/Impact Hierarchy subset of Model Layers 8 through 13 and therefore, is dependent upon the subset layers within the Shared Infrastructure Services Object Layer~~ The system of claim 20, wherein the data files comprise a member selected from the group consisting of structured information, unstructured information, created information, accessed information, manipulated information , and combinations thereof.

23.   (Currently Amended) ~~A method as in claim 7, in which an Application Object represents software, operating system, program, and or data~~ The system of claim 20, wherein the application object layer comprises up to four dependency relationships between programs files and data files.

24.   (Currently Amended) ~~A method as in claim 23, further including: (a) On the BTRM Dependency/Impact Hierarchy, the Application Object is modeled below the Input Device Object. (b) On the BTRM Dependency/Impact Hierarchy, the Application Object is modeled above the Server Object. (c) On the BTRM Dependency/Impact Hierarchy,~~

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~~the Application-Object is dependent-upon-the-Server-Object. (d) When-the-BTRM Dependency/Impact-Hierarchy-includes-the abstraction-of-a-Shared-Data-Storage-Layer, the Application-Object-is-also-modeled-above the Shared-Data-Storage-Object. (e) When the-BTRM-Dependency/Impact-Hierarchy includes the abstraction-of-the-Shared-Data Storage-Layer, the Application-Object-is-also-dependent-upon-the-Shared-Data-Storage Object~~ The system of claim 23, wherein the data file receive data from a second data file, wherein the data file receiving the data is modeled above and dependant upon the a second data file.

25.   (Currently Amended) ~~A-method-as-in-claims 7 or 23, further-including: (a) The BTRM Dependency/Impact-Hierarchy-considers-files that contain-commands-as-Program files, and those-that-do-not-as-Data files. (b) The BTRM Dependency/Impact-Hierarchy considers-Program-files-as-a-collection-of-commands-that-cause-the-computer-to-perform specific-operations. (c) The BTRM Dependency/Impact Hierarchy considers a Data-file as-a-collection-of-information-that-can-be-structured, or-unstructured. (d) The BTRM Dependency/Impact Hierarchy considers-that-Data files are created, accessed, or manipulated-by-Program-files. (e) The BTRM Dependency/Impact Hierarchy considers that Data files do-not cause the-computer to perform operations~~ The system of claim 23, wherein the program file is modeled above the data file and wherein the program file reads, writes, edits, deletes, or manipulates data in the data file.

26.   (Currently Amended) ~~A-method-as-in-claims 7 or 23, further-include, within-the-BTRM Dependency/Impact-Hierarchy Application-Object-Layer, there are four-possible-File Dependency/Impact Abstractions-for-Program-and-Data files~~ The system of claim 23, wherein the data file is modeled above the program file and wherein the program file reads, writes, edits, deletes, or manipulates the data file.

27.   (Currently Amended) ~~A method as in claim 26, further including: (a) When one-Data-file receives-data-from-another-Data file, the Data-file-receiving-the-data-is-modeled-above and-dependant-upon-the-Data-file-from-which-the-data originates. (b) A Program file is modeled-above a Data file when a Program file reads, writes, edits, deletes, or manipulates-data-in-a Data file. (c) A Data-file-is-modeled-above-a Program file when a~~

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~~Program file reads, writes, edits, deletes, or manipulates a Data file. (d) A Program file is modeled above another Program file when one Program file calls or launches another Program file~~ The system of claim 23, wherein the program file is modeled above a second program file and wherein the program file calls or launches the second program file.

28.   (Cancelled)

29.   (Cancelled)

30.   (Cancelled)

31.   (Cancelled)

32.   (Cancelled)

33.   (Cancelled)

34.   (Cancelled)

35.   (Cancelled)

36.   (Cancelled)

37.   (Cancelled)

38.   (Cancelled)

39.   (Cancelled)

Applicant believes no new matter has been added with these amendments.

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